

## DECISION RECORD

### DOI-BLM-NM-P010-2015-040-DNA

Proposed Decision: It is my decision to implement the BLM-Preferred Alternative as described in DOI-BLM-NM-P010-2015-040-DNA and to issue a permit for the allotment analyzed in this document. The mitigation measures identified in the original EA have been formulated into terms and conditions that will be attached to the grazing lease. This decision incorporates, by reference, those conditions identified in the attached Environmental Assessment. A summary table follows:

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Pasture Name	Acres of Public Land	Percent Public Land	Grazing Term	Animal Units Authorized	Animal Unit Months Authorized	Class of Livestock
65023	West White Ranch	Hill West	360	100%	10/01-01/31	15	61	Cattle
65023	West White Ranch	BLM River	80	100%	07/01-08/31	30	61	Cattle

Rationale: Based on the rangeland health assessments (RHAs) and previous monitoring, resource conditions on this allotment are sufficient and sustainable to support the level of use outlined in the term grazing lease.

The Proposed Action will be in compliance with the 1997 Roswell Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision and the 2001 New Mexico Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.

If you wish to protest this proposed decision in accordance with 43 CFR 4160.2, you are allowed 15 days to do so in person or in writing to the authorized officer, after the receipt of this decision. Please be specific in your points of protest.

The protest shall be filed with the Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 2909 West 2<sup>nd</sup>, Roswell, NM 88201. This protest should specify, clearly and concisely, why you think the proposed action is in error.

In the absence of a protest within the time allowed, the above decision shall constitute my final decision. Should this notice become the final decision, you are allowed an additional 30 days within which to file an appeal for the purpose of a hearing before the Interior Board of Land Appeals, and to petition for stay of the decision pending final determination on the appeal (43 CFR 4.21 and 4.410). If a petition for stay is not requested and granted, the decision will be put into effect following the 30-day appeal period. The appeal and petition for stay should be filed with the Field Manager at the above address. The appeal should specify, clearly and concisely, why you think the decision is in error. The petition for stay should specify how you will be harmed if the stay is not granted.

/s/ Kyle S. Arnold  
Kyle S. Arnold  
Acting Assistant Field Manager

02/26/2015  
Date

**Worksheet**  
**Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**

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**OFFICE:** Roswell Field Office

**TRACKING NUMBER:** DOI-BLM-NM-P010-2015-0040-DNA

**CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER:** Allotment 65023 – West White Ranch

**PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE:** Renewal of long term grazing permit

**LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Township 7 South, Range 26 East,  
Portions of Sections 17, 20 & 21, NMPM

**APPLICANT (if any):**

**A. Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures**

Renewal of Long term grazing permit for allotment 65023, West White Ranch. The permit would be offered at the following levels:

Allot# 65023	West White Ranch	BLM River	30 Cattle	07/01-08/31	100% pl	Active Use	61 AUMs
Allot#65023	West White Ranch	West Hill	15 Cattle	10/01-01/31	100% pl	Active Use	61 AUMs

**B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance**

***\*List applicable LUPs (for example, resource management plans; activity, project, management, or program plans; or applicable amendments thereto)***

**LUP Name\*** Roswell Resource Management Plan, **Date Approved:** October 1997

**Other document (s):** EA NM-060-00-062, dated 06/12/2001

**The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:**

The Roswell Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (October 1997) has been reviewed to determine if the proposed action conforms with the land use plan's Record of Decision. The Roswell Resource Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement(RMP/EIS) states :Allotment categorization and initial grazing use allocations made in the East Roswell Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (1979) and the Roswell Resource Area Management Framework Plan amendment/Environmental Impact Statement (1984) will be used as the basis for continued livestock grazing. Changes in use allocations will continue to be made on the basis of monitoring data.

43 Code of Federal Regulations Part 4100, Subpart 4130.2 a states: Grazing permits or leases shall be issued to qualified applicants to authorize use on the public lands and other lands under the administration of the Bureau of Land management that are designated as available for livestock grazing through land use plans. Permits or leases shall specify the types and levels of use authorized including livestock grazing and suspended use.

**C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

**List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.**

**List by name and date other documents relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).**

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

- 1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial? Documentation of answer and explanation:**

Yes. The current Proposed Action was analyzed in the above mentioned Environmental Assessment (EA). The proposed action is the same action analyzed in the existing NEPA document.

- 2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values? Documentation of answer and explanation:**

Yes. The range of alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document is appropriate with the respect to the new proposed action. No new environmental concerns, interests or resources values have surfaced.

- 3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action? Documentation of answer and explanation:**

Yes, the existing analysis is valid in terms of rangeland health assessment, recent endangered species listings or updated lists of BLM-sensitive species. The Rangeland Health Assessment was completed on 11/08/2012. The allotment met all the standards.

- 4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document? Documentation of answer and explanation:**

Yes, the direct, indirect and cumulative effects that would result from the implementation of offering a new term grazing permit are similar, both quantitatively and qualitatively, to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document.

- 5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action? Documentation of answer and explanation:**

Yes, the public involvement and interagency review associated with the existing NEPA document is considered adequate for the proposed renewal of the long term permit.

## E. Cultural Resources

Concerning cultural resources, grazing has the potential for impacts. The Roswell Field Office reviews the local office and NMCRIS databases for every grazing permit or leasing action at both the Environmental Assessment level and this Documentation of NEPA Adequacy level. In situations where sensitive sites lie within an allotment, site specific visits may be conducted to assess the presence of effects. Nineteen plus surveys and eight sites have been reported in this allotment. Currently, there is no evidence that grazing activities at this intensity have adversely impacted any cultural resources; however, unforeseen impacts may occur. Any future range improvement involving earth disturbing activities will require a cultural inventory prior to approval.

## F. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted

NAME	TITLE	AGENCY REPRESENTED
Helen Miller	Rangeland Management Specialist	BLM
Michael McGee	Hydrologist	BLM
Laura Hronic	Archaeologist	BLM
Dan Baggao	Wildlife Biologist	BLM
Mike Bilbo	Cave & VRM Specialist	BLM
Glen Garnand	Planning & Environmental Coordinator	BLM

Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the existing environmental analysis or planning documents.

## Conclusion

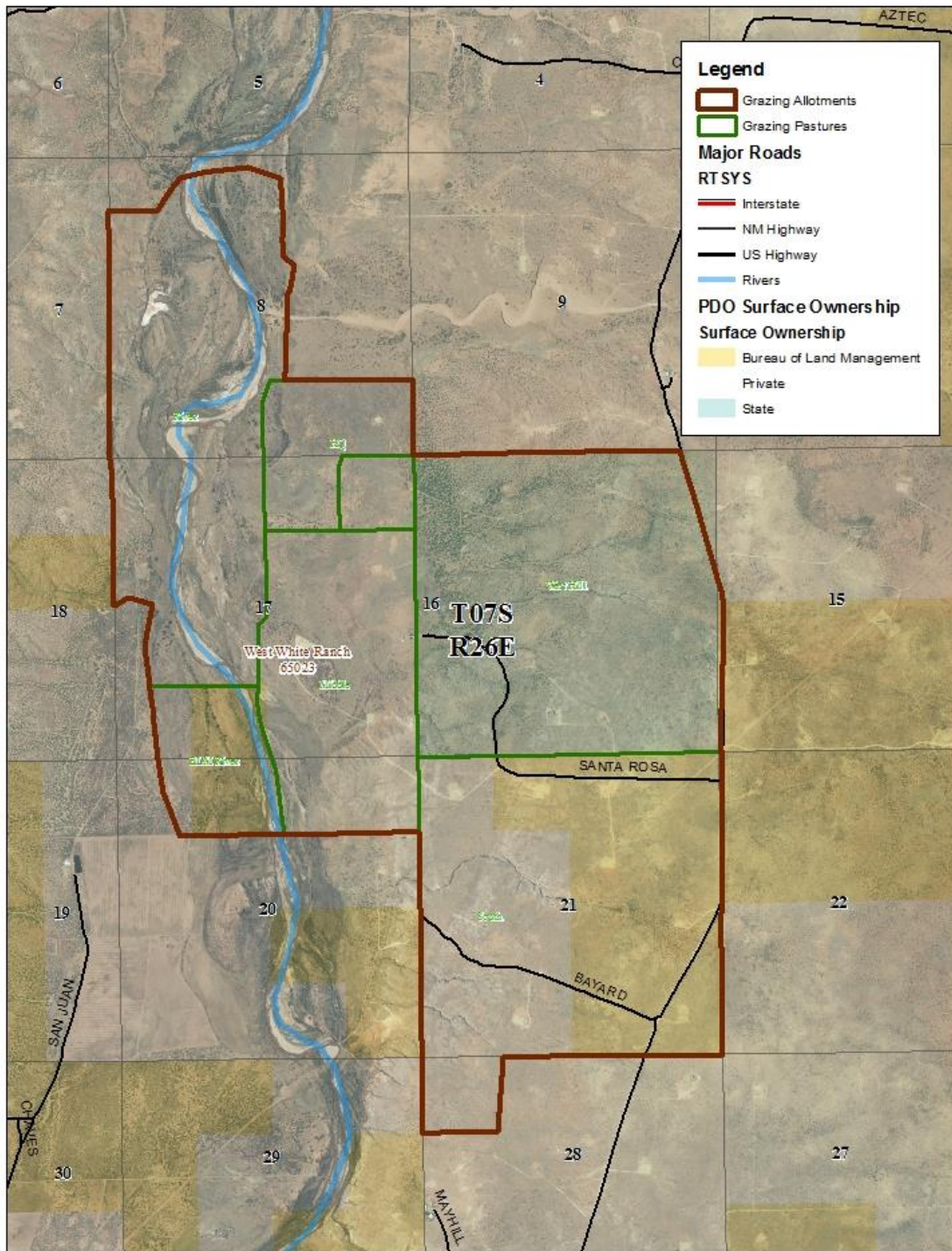
Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitute BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

/s/ Kyle S. Arnold  
Acting  
Assistant Field Manager

02/26/2015  
Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

# Allotment 65023 - West White Ranch



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